AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated below. The language being added is underlined ("__") and the language being deleted contains either a strikethrough ("—") or is enclosed by double brackets ("[[ ]]").

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of separating and collating mammogram records, said method including the steps of:

inputting patient identification data for a series of N patients, where N≥1, using an inputting device, the identification data stored in a memory of a processor;

scanning at least one radiological film mammogram relating to a patient thereby to obtain at least one digitized image of the at least one film mammogram;

storing the at least one digitized image in the [[a]] memory of the processor;

providing and scanning a separator film having identifiable features which when scanned identify the film as a separator film, and ~~including~~ positioning the separator film immediately after the at least one radiological film of the [[a]] patient; and

repeating said steps of scanning, storing, and providing for the remaining film mammograms [[of]] for the N patients in a film mammogram queue~~, where N≥1~~;

wherein ~~the digitized images generated subsequent to each scanned separator film are stored separately from the stored digitized images obtained from prior scanned film mammograms,~~ the separator films allow for associating the at least one film mammogram between each of two nearest separator films in sequential fashion with the inputted identification data of the series of N patients.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 further including a [[the]] step of printing a printout of the at least one digitized image of the at least one film mammogram of the [[a]] patient, and

further including a step of conveying ~~and positioning~~ the printout from the printer ~~together with the at least one film mammogram~~, so [[such]] that the printout falls onto its associated at least one film mammogram, ~~and~~ the printout and the associated at least one film mammogram forming ~~form~~ a collated package of physical data related ~~relating~~ to the ~~a single~~ patient, said steps of printing and conveying being synchronized so as to allow for collation of the printout with its associated at least one film mammogram in the collated package of physical data.

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 2 wherein said step of printing provides a printout which contains location markers indicating anatomical abnormalities detected by the processor ~~found~~ on a mammogram.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 2 wherein said step of printing a printout is effected prior to said step of providing and scanning.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 2 wherein said step of printing a printout is effected after said scanning of a separator film in said step of providing and scanning .

6. (Original) A method according to claim 2 wherein said step of repeating also includes repeating said step of printing.

7-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A method for separating and collating mammogram records, said method including the steps of:

inputting patient identification data for a series of N patients where N≥1 using an inputting device, the identification data stored in a memory of a processor;

scanning a set of film mammograms relating to a patient thereby to obtain at least one digitized image of the set of film mammograms;

moving the scanned set of film mammograms to a collating station;

providing and scanning a separator film having identifiable features which when scanned identify the film as a separator film, and ~~including~~ positioning the [[said]] separator film immediately after the set of film mammograms of the [[a]] patient~~; positioning the separator film~~ so that [[it]] the separator film functions as the last film of the scanned set of film mammograms of the patient located at the collating station and allows for associating the set of film mammograms between each of two nearest separator films in sequential fashion with the inputted identification data of the series of N patients; ~~and~~

repeating said steps of scanning, moving, and providing ~~and positioning steps~~ for the ~~all~~ N sets of film mammograms in a film mammogram queue~~, where N≥1~~; and

transferring each of the N sets of film mammograms positioned between two nearest separator films to its own individual physical storage container for storage.

13. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 12 further including:

a step of printing to provide ~~providing~~ a printout of the at least one digitized image of the set of film mammograms; and

a step of conveying wherein the printout is conveyed to, falls on and is positioned together with [[the]] its associated set of film mammograms of the patient at the collating station,

whereby the set of film mammograms and printout together form a collated package of physical data relating to the ~~a single~~ patient, said steps of printing and conveying being synchronized so as to allow for collation of the printout with its associated set of film mammograms in the collated package of physical data.

14. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 13 wherein said step of printing provides a printout which contains location markers indicating anatomical abnormalities detected by the processor ~~found~~ on a mammogram.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 13 wherein said steps of printing and conveying are effected prior to said step of providing.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 13 wherein said steps of printing and conveying are effected prior to said step of positioning.

17. (Original) A method according to claim 13 wherein said step of repeating also includes repeating said steps of printing and conveying.

18-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A workstation system for collating radiological film mammograms and other physical records, said system including:

a scanner operative to receive and digitize radiological film mammograms from a patient and a separator film carrying identifiable features for identifying the film as a separator film;

a collating station for receiving the scanned films from said scanner;

processing means for receiving digitized images from said scanner operative to evaluate the digitized images of the film mammograms so as to detect suspicious lesions therein, further operative to generate output data indicative thereof and to store the data in association with the digitized images;

wherein said processing means is further operative to detect said scanned separator film and to assign all subsequent scanned radiographic film mammograms to other patients;

a printer in communication with said processing means for producing a printout of the digitized images identifying data and output data relating to the patient, said printer including a conveyor for conveying the printout to said collating station; and

means for synchronizing said scanner and said printer such that the printout of the scanned films of a patient is laid on the scanned ~~films~~ film mammograms prior to the delivery to said collating station of said [[the]] separator film.

24. (Original) A system according to claim 23 further including a display for displaying the digitized images of scanned radiological film mammograms received from said processing means which is in electronic communication with said display.

25. (Original) A system according to any one of claims 23-24 further including an input device for entering identifier data relating to the patient.

26. (Original) A system according to claim 23 wherein the conveyor includes a set of rollers.

27. (Original) A system according to claim 23 wherein the conveyor is a paper guide.

28-30. (Cancelled)